CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

5   1.   A method for collating data in a distributed computer network having non-synchronous compute nodes, said method comprising:

receiving a set of data packets from a plurality of non-synchronous compute nodes, wherein each of said set of data packets is provided by one of 10   said non-synchronous compute nodes;

inserting said data packets into a software container according to user predetermined rules for determining a logical order for said data packets;

15   locating common groups of said data packets within said container according to said user predetermined rules;

protecting said container against incomplete groups of said data packets due to system anomalies or quality of service within said distributed computer 20   network; and

outputting logical group of said data packets that represent an aggregate packet from said non-synchronous compute nodes after said grouping criteria has been met.

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2.   The method of Claim 1, wherein said inserting step further includes inserting said data packets into a software container according to individual packet time reference.

3.   The method of Claim 2, wherein said locating step further includes locating common groups of said data packets within said container according to individual packet time reference.

4.   The method of Claim 3, wherein said outputting step further includes outputting logical group of said data packets that represent time-synchronous packets from said non-synchronous compute nodes after said grouping criteria has been met.

5.   An apparatus for collating data in a distributed computer network having non-synchronous compute nodes, said apparatus comprising:

means for receiving a set of data packets from a plurality of non-synchronous compute nodes, wherein each of said set of data packets is provided by one of said non-synchronous compute nodes;

means for inserting said data packets into a software container according to user predetermined rules for determining a logical order for said data packets;

means for locating common groups of said data packets within said container according to said user predetermined rules;

means for protecting said container against incomplete groups of said data packets due to system anomalies or quality of service within said distributed computer network; and

means for outputting logical group of said data packets that represent an aggregate packet from said non-synchronous compute nodes after said grouping criteria has been met.

6. The apparatus of Claim 5, wherein said means for inserting further includes means for inserting said data packets into a software container according to individual packet time reference.

7. The apparatus of Claim 6, wherein said means for locating further includes means for locating common groups of said data packets within said container according to individual packet time reference.

8. The apparatus of Claim 7, wherein said means for outputting further includes means for outputting logical group of said data packets that represent time-synchronous packets from said non-synchronous compute nodes after said grouping criteria has been met.

9. A computer program product residing on a computer usable medium for collating data in a distributed computer network having non-synchronous compute nodes, said computer program product comprising:

program code means for receiving a set of data packets from a plurality of non-synchronous compute nodes, wherein each of said set of data packets is provided by one of said non-synchronous compute nodes;

program code means for inserting said data packets into a software container according to user predetermined rules for determining a logical order for said data packets;

program code means for locating common groups of said data packets within said container according to said user predetermined rules;

program code means for protecting said container against incomplete groups of said data packets due to system anomalies or quality of service within said distributed computer network; and

program code means for outputting logical group of said data packets that represent an aggregate packet from said non-synchronous compute nodes after said grouping criteria has been met.

10. The computer program product of Claim 9, wherein said program code means for inserting further includes program code means for inserting said data packets into a software container according to individual packet time reference.

11. The computer program product of Claim 10, wherein said program code means for locating further includes program code means for locating common groups of said data packets within said container according to individual packet time reference.

12. The computer program product of Claim 11, wherein said program code means for outputting further includes program code means for outputting logical group of said data packets that represent time-synchronous packets from said non-synchronous compute nodes after said grouping criteria has been met.